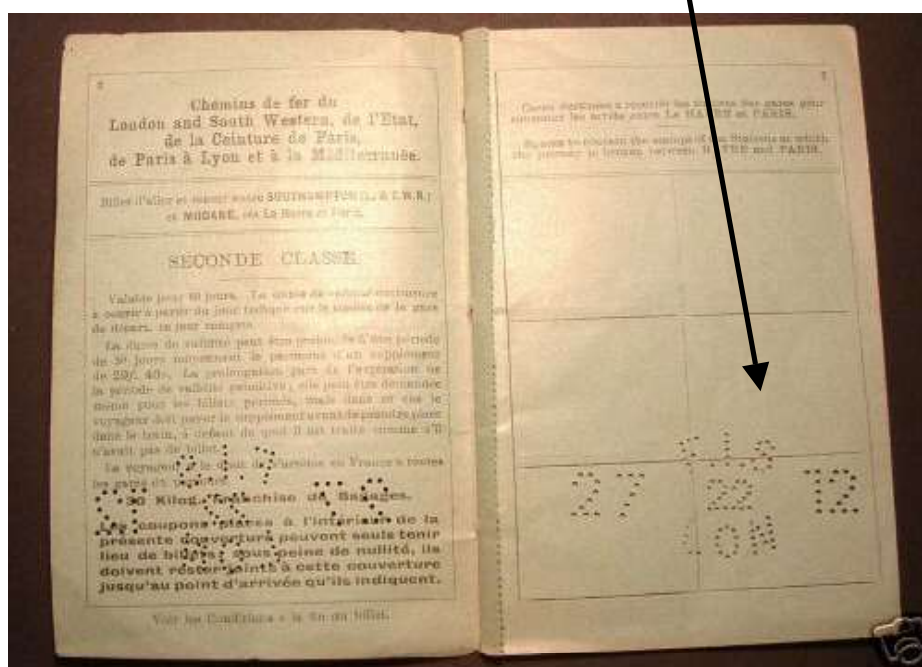
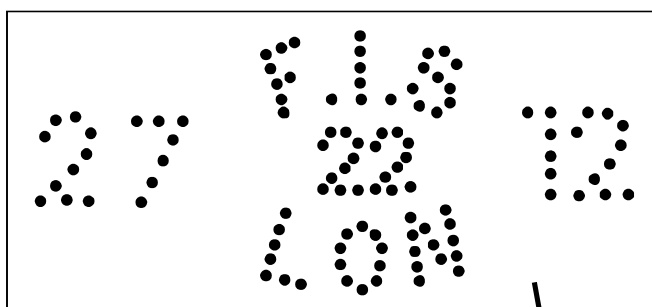


BRITISH RAILWAY TICKET WITH “PERFIN”

John Mathews

Item # 260019658324 offered on e-bay in August 2006 was a railway ticket of the London and South Western (L.& S.W.R.), French State, Paris Ceinture, Paris Lyon & Mediterranean Railway. Apart from the pages which contained nothing other than general instructions and conditions of use, the “ticket” pages themselves were all punched with the style of date stamp which comprised a considerable part of Joseph Sloper’s perforator business.



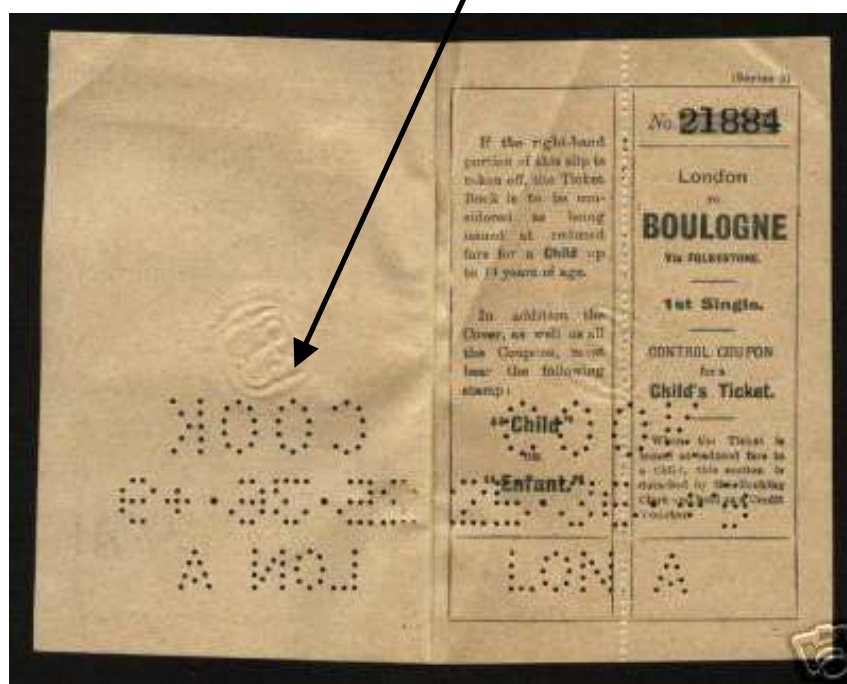
The punch reads “27 F.I.S/22/LON 12”, the numerals no doubt meaning 27 December 1922. If any reader has access to London Directories for 1922 or thereabouts, they might be able to ascertain whether the initials “F.I.S” are those of a travel company in London.

Thomas Cook & Sons, for example, also used such a style of punch over many years.

Another railway ticket was offered on ebay in December 2006 (item #140066160177) and was unsold. It was a First Class Single ticket from London to Boulogne and was issued by Thomas Cook & Sons on 25 September 1936.



COOK
25. 36. 1936
LON A



The significance of having the dated punch can be seen from the wording on the cover that reads “Available for 7 days”.